



Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

May 15, 2019

Re: *AU Docket No. 17-182; WC Docket No. 10-90*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On May 13, 2019, Scott Anderson and Nicole Tupman of Midcontinent Communications (Midco) met with Terri Natoli, Pamela Arluk, Ryan Palmer, Alexander Minard, and Adam Copeland of the Wireline Competition Bureau regarding the Connect America Fund Phase II Auction (CAF), and Midco's CAF application and award.

Midco provided an overview of its 85-year operational history in rural America using the enclosed presentation. Midco discussed its CAF award and plans on servicing CAF locations using our next generation, mid-band LTE fixed wireless network backhauled to our Gigabit-capable wired network. Midco plans to serve CAF locations primarily with data and voice using fixed wireless technology.

Midco also discussed its experiences with and approval of the CAF rules and the auction system software. Midco would support the Commission using a similar process for future auctions. Midco offered one minor suggestion that shapefiles of GIS and mapping data be provided during any future auction.

In accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, I have filed a copy of this notice electronically in the above-referenced dockets. Please address any questions regarding the foregoing to me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Nicole Tupman

Nicole Tupman
Assistant General Counsel
nicole.tupman@midco.com

Enclosures

cc: Terri Natoli
Pamela Arluk
Ryan Palmer,
Alexander Minard
Adam Copeland

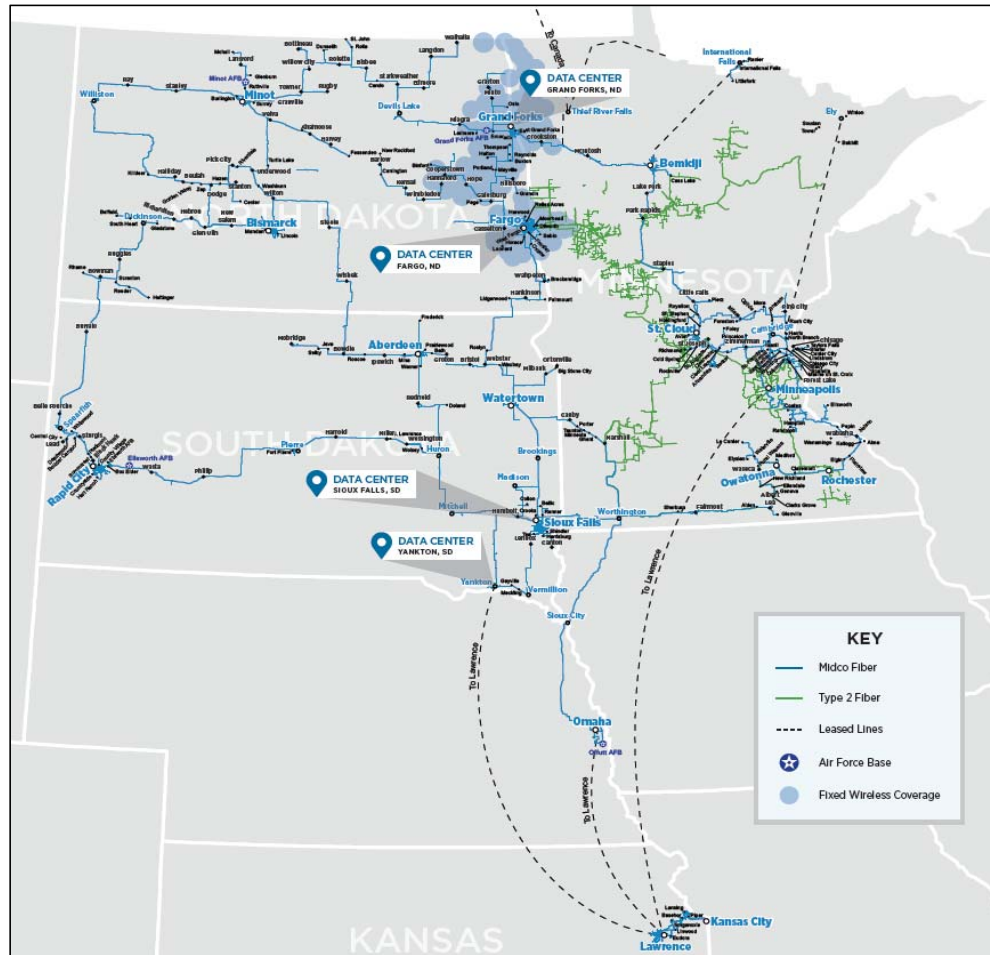
Closing the Digital Divide through CAF Phase II



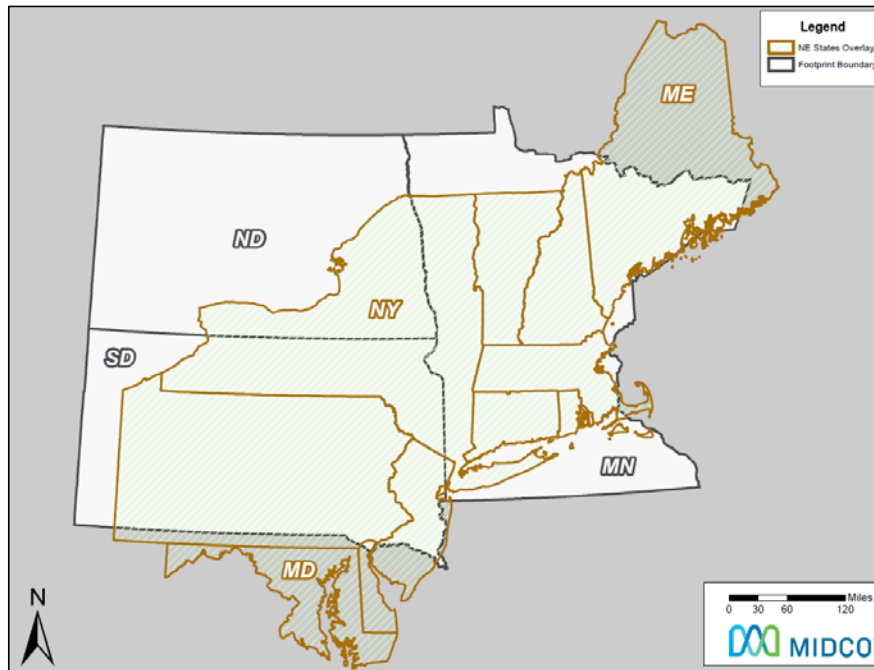
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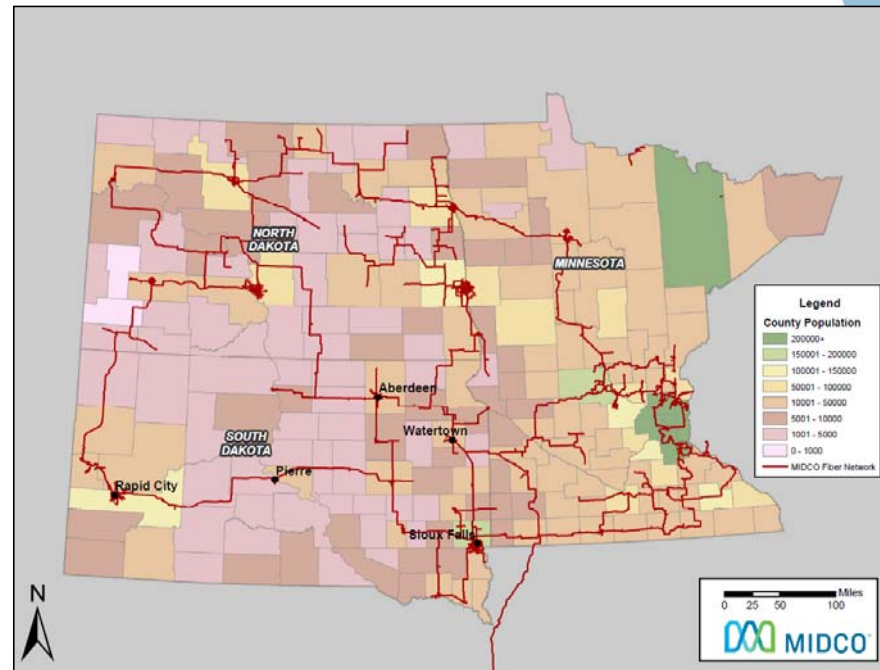
Current Network



Midco Serves Rural America



- Northeast: approx. 61.2 million people
- Midco footprint: approx. 7.2 million people



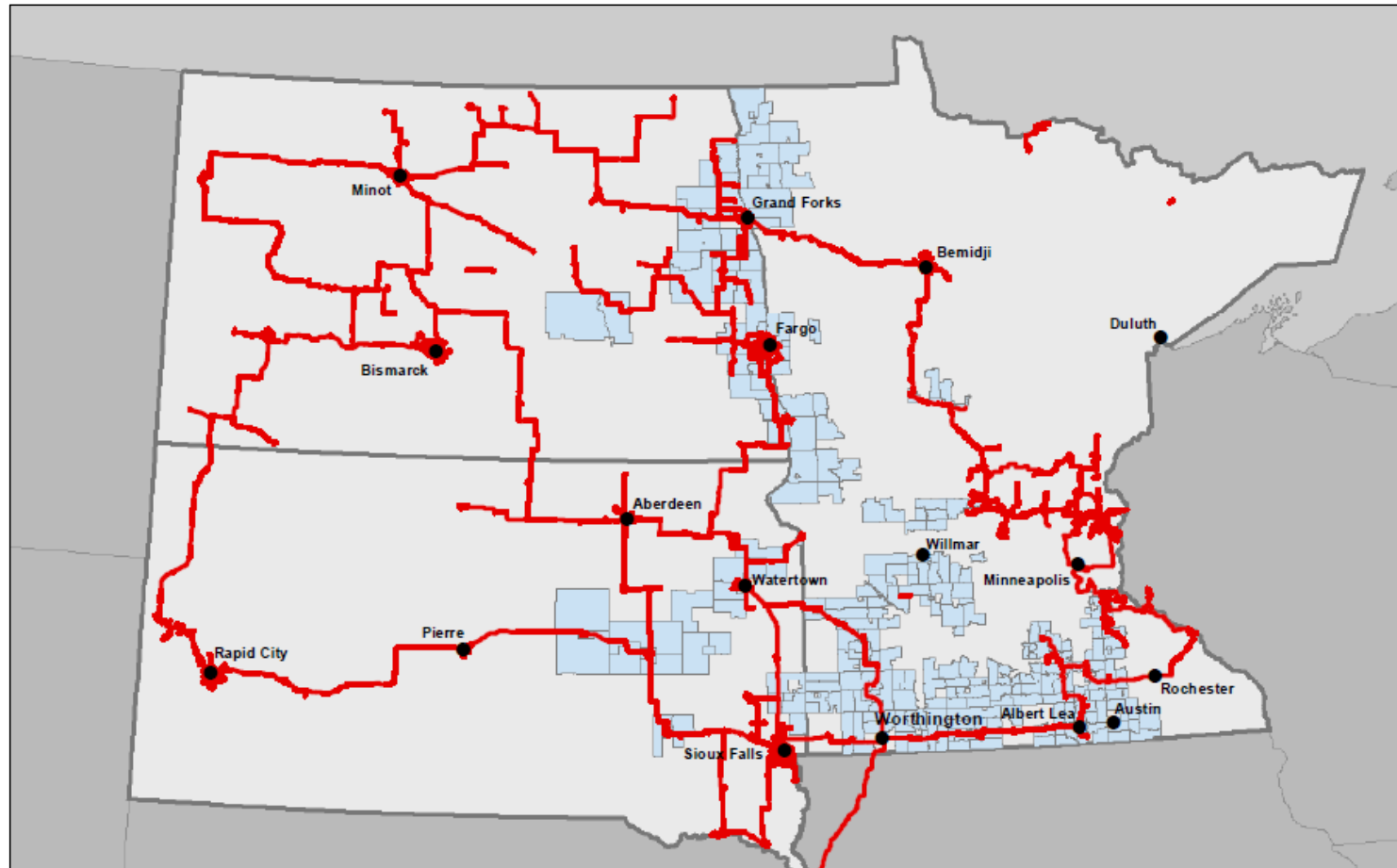
- Half of the counties in the Dakotas have fewer than 5,000 people

Fiber Backbone

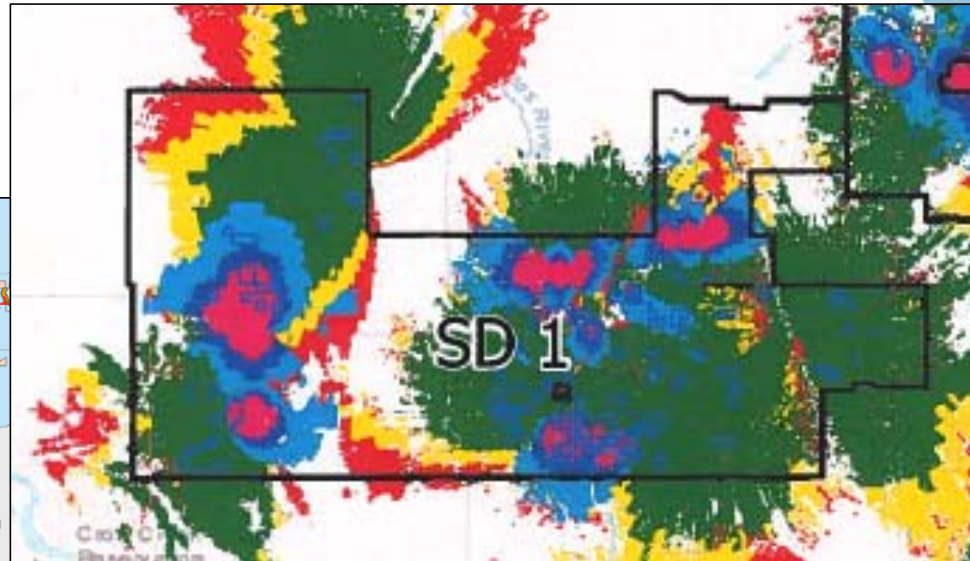
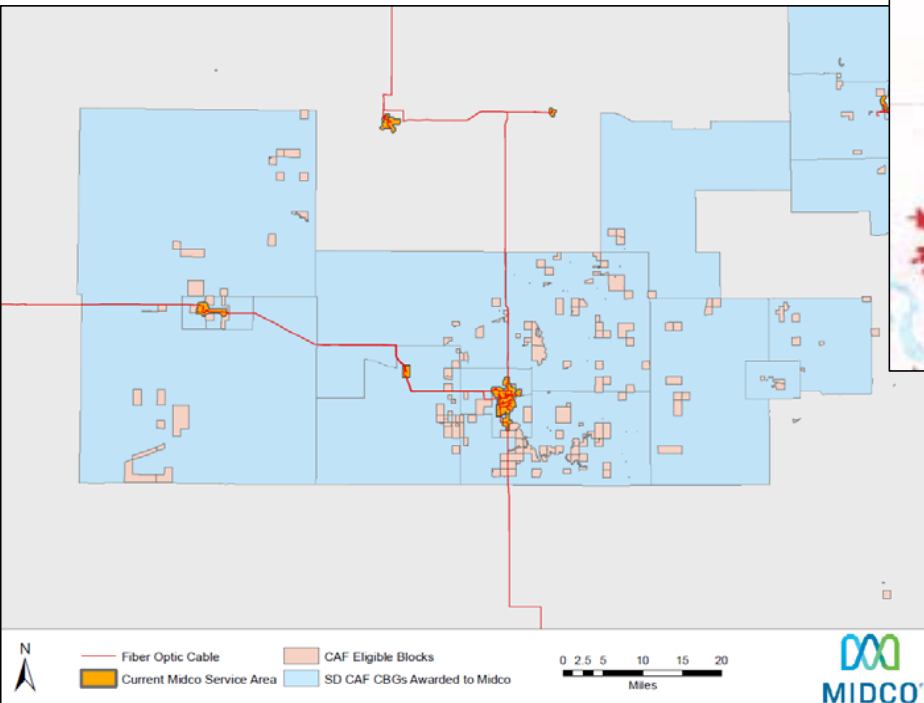
- Almost 10,000 miles of fiber
- Approximately 400,000 customer relationships on wired plant
- Over 90% of footprint has Gig fiber access
- Starting to implement 10G for fiber-smart, 2-way carrier-class 10G speeds



CAF Areas

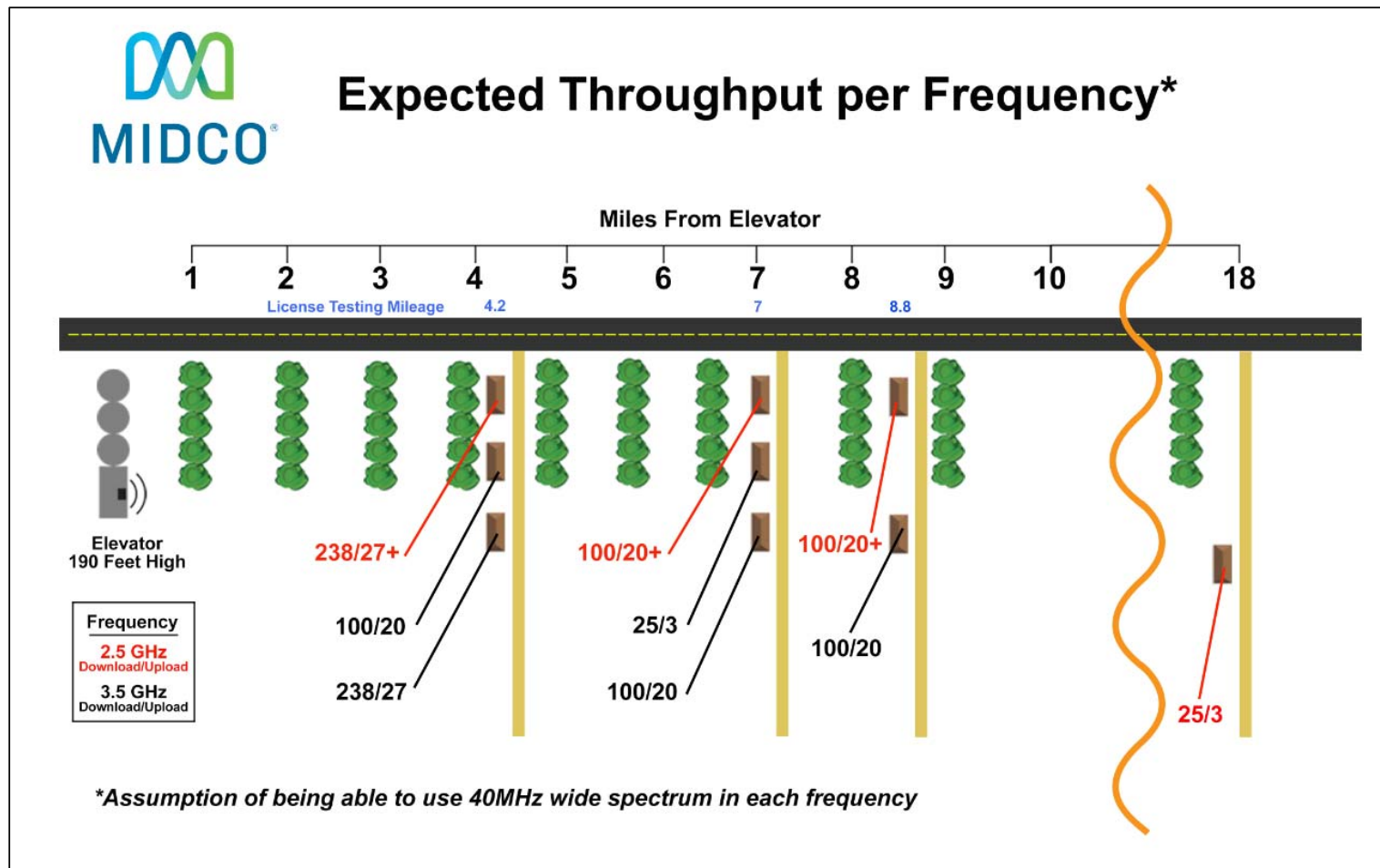


Coverage Extends Beyond CAF Locations

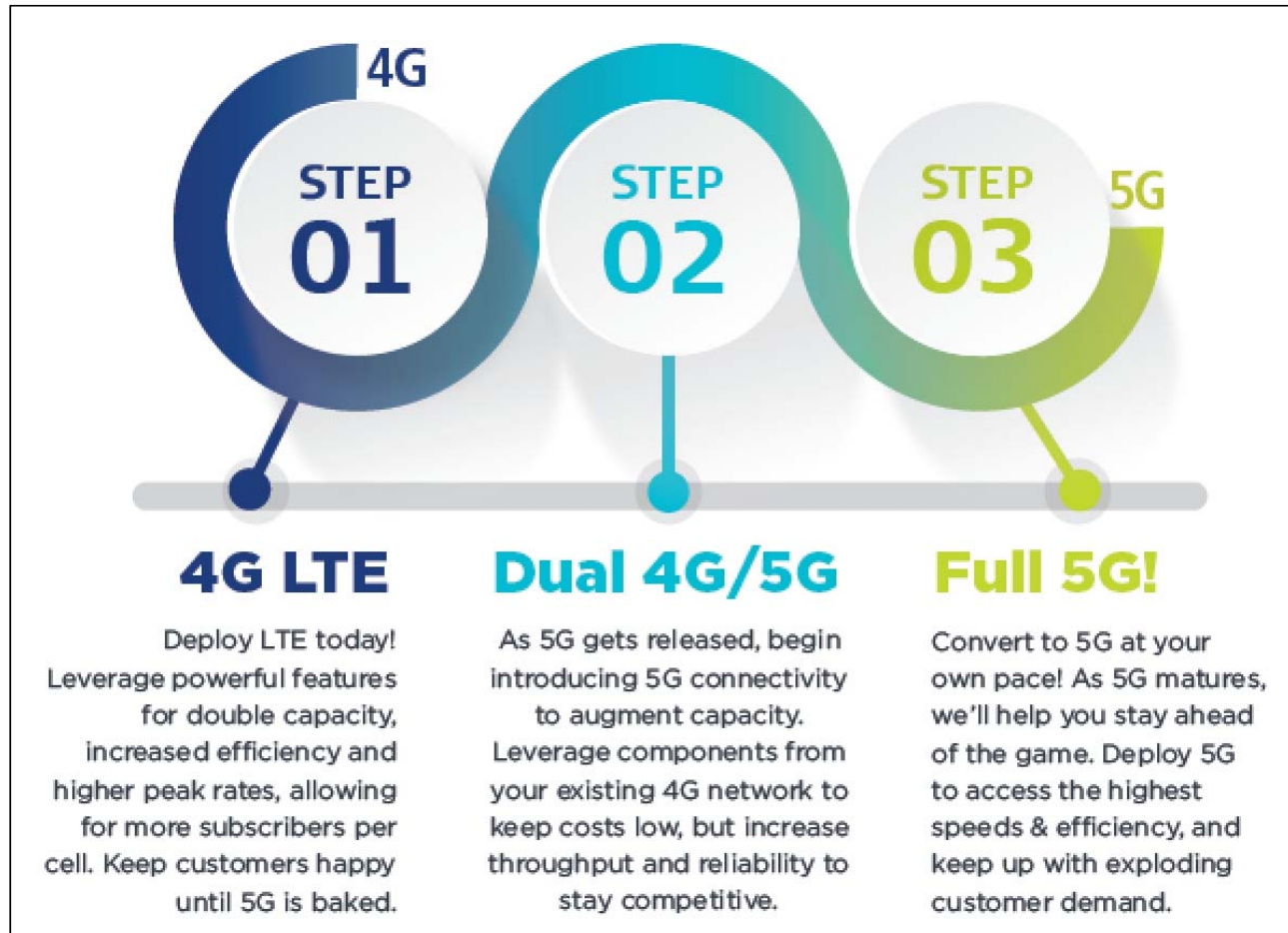


MIDCO
Let's Go®

Mid-Band LTE Network



Our Mid-Band LTE Network Has a Path to *Fixed* “5G”



CAF as One Step to Close the Digital Divide

